

Message Text

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21

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /114 W

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R 092343Z OCT 75

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2765

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS USUN 4900

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR UNGA RH US

SUBJ: 30TH UNGA FOURTH COMMITTEE: SOUTHERN RHODESIA

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF STATEMENT BY CONGRESSMAN
DONALD M. FRASER AT UNGA FOURTH COMMITTEE MEETING
MORNING, OCTOBER 9, CONCERNING SOUTHERN RHODESIA:

"MADAME CHAIRWOMAN, THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION
WISHES TO CONGRATULATE YOU AND THE OTHER MEMBERS OF
THE BUREAU, ON YOUR ELECTION AND TO ASSURE YOU OF
OUR COOPERATION DURING THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE IN
THE DAYS AHEAD.

IT IS ESPECIALLY APPROPRIATE THAT YOU SHOULD BE
ELECTED TO CHAIRMAN THIS COMMITTEE DURING INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S YEAR, BUT I WOULD LIKE TO ADD MY VOICE TO
THAT OF THE DISTINGUISHED REPRESENTATIVE OF AUSTRALIA
WHO SUGGESTED YESTERDAY THAT THE ELECTION OF A
WOMEN CHAIRPERSON SHOULD BECOME A FREQUENT OCCURRENCE,
NOT CONFINED TO PARTICULAR YEARS OF COMMEMORATION.

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THE US. DELEGATION WOULD ALSO LIKE TO NOTE WITH

PLEASURE THE PRESENCE IN THE COMMITTEE THIS YEAR OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF CAPE VERDE, MOZAMBIQUE AND SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE. THE US. WAS PLEASED TO VOTE IN FAVOR OF THEIR ADMISSION INTO THE UNITED NATIONS AND LOOKS FORWARD TO WORKING WITH THESE NATIONS IN THIS COMMITTEE AND OTHERS IN THE UN.

ONLY THREE WEEKS AGO SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER DELIVERED A MAJOR US. POLICY STATEMENT ON AFRICA BEFORE A DINNER IN HONOR OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY FOREIGN MINISTERS AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES AT THE UNITED NATIONS. IN THIS SPEECH THE SECRETARY SOUNDED THE OVERALL THEME THAT STRENGTHENING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE US. AND AFRICA IS A MAJOR OBJECTIVE OF US. FOREIGN POLICY. MADAME CHAIRWOMAN. IT IS IN THIS SPIRIT THAT MY DELEGATION INTENDS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WORK OF THIS COMMITTEE IN THE DAYS AHEAD.

ON THE QUESTION OF SOUTHERN RHODESIA IN PARTICULAR, THE SECRETARY NOTED THE SYMPATHY WITH WHICH THE US. HAS VIEWED THE ATTEMPT TO NEGOTIATE A PEACEFUL SOLUTION IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA OVER THE PAST YEAR. HE SPECIFICALLY CITED THE STATESMANLIKE EFFORTS OF THE LEADERS OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES--ESPECIALLY PRESIDENT KAUNDA, PRIME MINISTER VORSTER, PRESIDENT KHAMA, PRESIDENT NYERERE AND PRESIDENT MACHEL--TO AVERT BLOODSHED AND VIOLENCE. THE US. STRONGLY SUPPORTS THE EFFORTS OF THESE LEADERS TO BRING THE PARTIES TOGETHER IN NEGOTIATIONS.

TO MAINTAIN PRESSURE ON THE MINORITY REGIME IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA THE US. INTENDS TO ADHERE SCRUPULOUSLY TO THE ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST THE SMITH REGIME. PRESIDENT FORD AND HIS ENTIRE ADMINISTRATION REMAIN COMMITTED TO REPEALING THE BYRD AMENDMENT, DESPITE THE RECENT FAILURE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO PASS A BILL REPEALING THE AMENDMENT.

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THIS ACTION BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WAS PARTICULARLY DISAPPOINTING TO ME BECAUSE I HAD THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR MANAGING THE BILL ON THE FLOOR OF THE HOUSE.

WE RECOGNIZE THE NEED TO REPEAL THE BYRD AMENDMENT NOT ONLY FOR THE INTENDED EFFECT IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA BUT ALSO IN THE INTEREST OF OUR

OWN SELF-ESTEEM IN UPHOLDING OUR INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS.

AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WHO HAS WORKED LONG FOR THE REMOVAL OF THE BYRD AMENDMENT, I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR REPEAL IS INCREASING. WHEN THE AMENDMENT WAS FIRST PASSED IN 1971, 100 MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES VOTED IN FAVOR OF MAINTAINING FULL COMPLIANCE WITH THE SANCTIONS. WHEN THE MEASURE WAS TAKEN UP AGAIN IN 1972, THAT NUMBER HAD INCREASED TO 140. AND THIS YEAR, IT REACHED 187. A CHANGE OF ONLY 12 IN THIS YEAR'S VOTE WOULD HAVE BEEN DECISIVE IN FAVOR OF REPEAL. IN THE SENATE, A MAJORITY FOR REPEAL EXISTS, AND WAS DEMONSTRATED BY A VOTE OF 54 TO 37 IN 1973.

EARLIER THIS WEEK THIS COMMITTEE HEARD AN ALLEGATION THAT SOME US. CITIZENS ARE FIGHTING AS MERCENARIES UNDER THE RHODESIAN ARMY. THERE ARE NO US. MILITARY PERSONNEL IN RHODESIA. MY GOVERNMENT DOES NOT APPROVE OF PARTICIPATION BY ANY AMERICAN CITIZEN IN THE FORCES OF THE IAN SMITH REGIME. OUR LAWS PROVIDE THAT ANY CITIZEN ENLISTING IN THE ARMED FORCES OF ANOTHER COUNTRY RUNS THE RISK OF LOSING HIS US. CITIZENSHIP. IN ADDITION HE COULD BE SUBJECTED TO CRIMINAL PROSECUTION UNDER EXISTING US. LAWS WHICH PROVIDE FINES AND PRISON TERMS FOR THOSE FOUND GUILTY. IF THERE IS ANY SPECIFIC EVIDENCE THAT AMERICANS ARE SERVING IN MILITARY FORCES UNDER IAN SMITH, MY GOVERNMENT WISHES TO BE MADE AWARE OF IT IN DETAIL IN ORDER THAT APPROPRIATE LEGAL ACTION MAY BE CONSIDERED UNDER OUR LAWS. MADAME CHAIRWOMEN, UNCLASSIFIED

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I WANT TO REITERATE IN THIS COMMITTEE AGAIN THIS YEAR THAT THE US. DOES NOT COLLABORATE IN MILITARY MATTERS IN ANY WAY WITH THE SMITH REGIME IN RHODESIA.

THE UNITED STATES IS AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL SANCTIONS COMMITTEE. WE ARE PREPARED TO CONSIDER SERIOUSLY RECOMMENDATIONS IN THAT COMMITTEE FOR FURTHER TIGHTENING OF ENFORCEMENT OF THE SANCTIONS.

IN CONCLUSION, I WOULD LIKE TO QUOTE FROM THE STATEMENT SECRETARY KISSINGER MADE ON THE QUESTION OF RHODESIA IN HIS SPEECH BEFORE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON SEPTEMBER 29. HE SAID: "THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO COMMUNITIES IN RHODESIA, WHILE SUBSTANTIAL, HAVE BEEN NARROWED IN THE LAST DECADE.

BOTH SIDES IN RHODESIA, AND RHODESIA'S NEIGHBORS,
BLACK AND WHITE, HAVE AN INTEREST IN AVERTING CIVIL
WAR. THE US. WILL SUPPORT ALL EFFORTS TO BRING
ABOUT A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT." THIS STATEMENT
ILLUSTRATES THE IMPORTANCE WHICH THE US. GOVERNMENT
ATTACHES TO THE PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THE RHODESIAN
PROBLEM. THE US. REMAINS FIRM BOTH IN SUPPORT OF
UN. RESOLUTIONS WHICH HAVE CONDEMNED THE ILLEGAL
SMITH REGIME AND IN OUR COMMITMENT TO THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRINCIPLES OF SELF-DETERMINATION
AND MAJORITY RULE IN RHODESIA. THE US. STRONGLY
FAVORS AND LOOKS FORWARD TO THE CREATION OF A GOVERN-
MENT IN RHODESIA WHICH IS ELECTED FREELY BY ALL
OF THE PEOPLE OF THAT COUNTRY. THANK YOU.
MOYNIHAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SPEECHES, SANCTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975USUNN04900
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750352-0421
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751068/aaaaciqd.tel
Line Count: 184
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 NOV 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 NOV 2003 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <13 JAN 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 30TH UNGA FOURTH COMMITTEE: SOUTHERN RHODESIA
TAGS: PFOR, RH, US, UNGA, (FRASER, DONALD M)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006